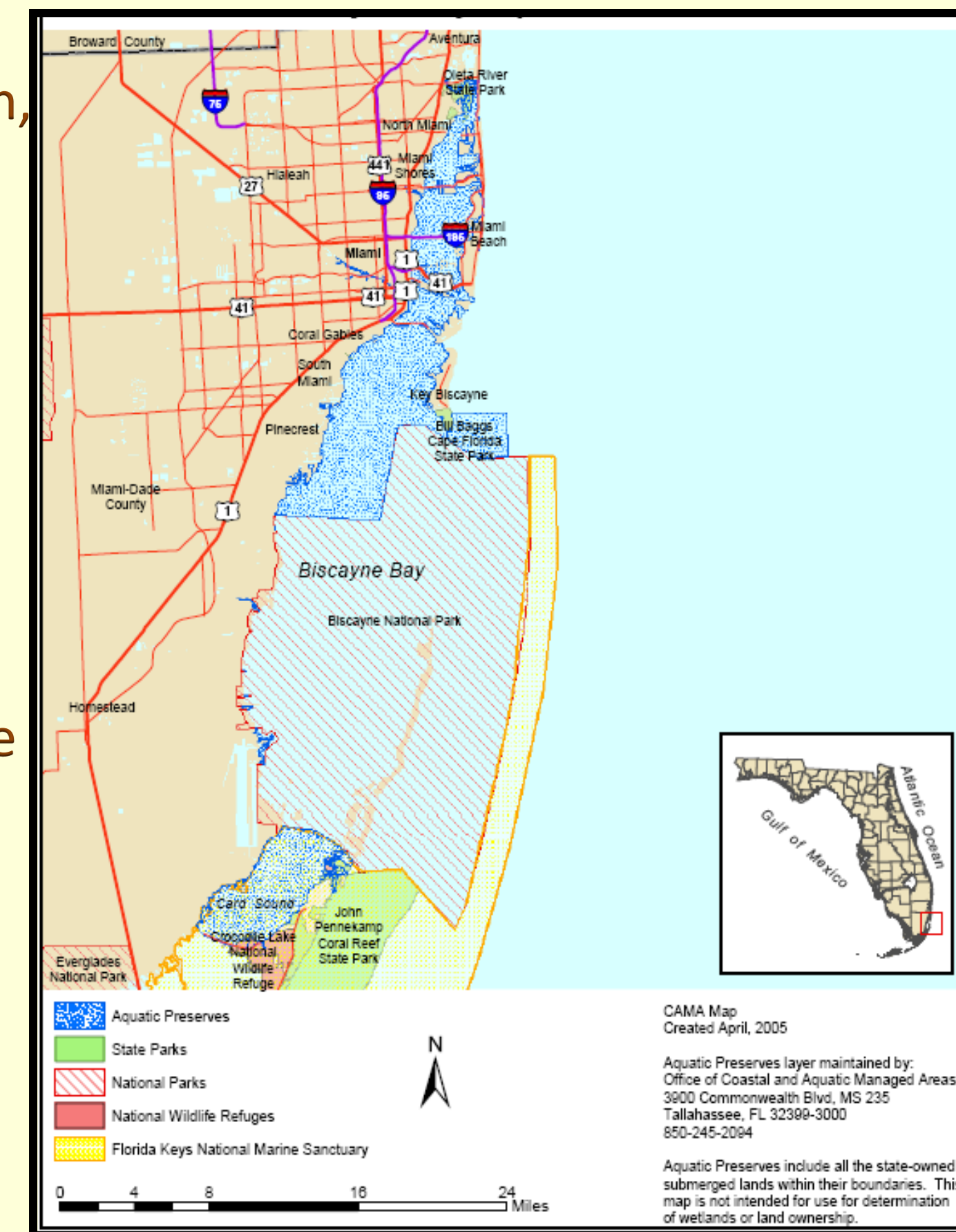


# Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team

## Working Together to Protect and Restore Biscayne Bay

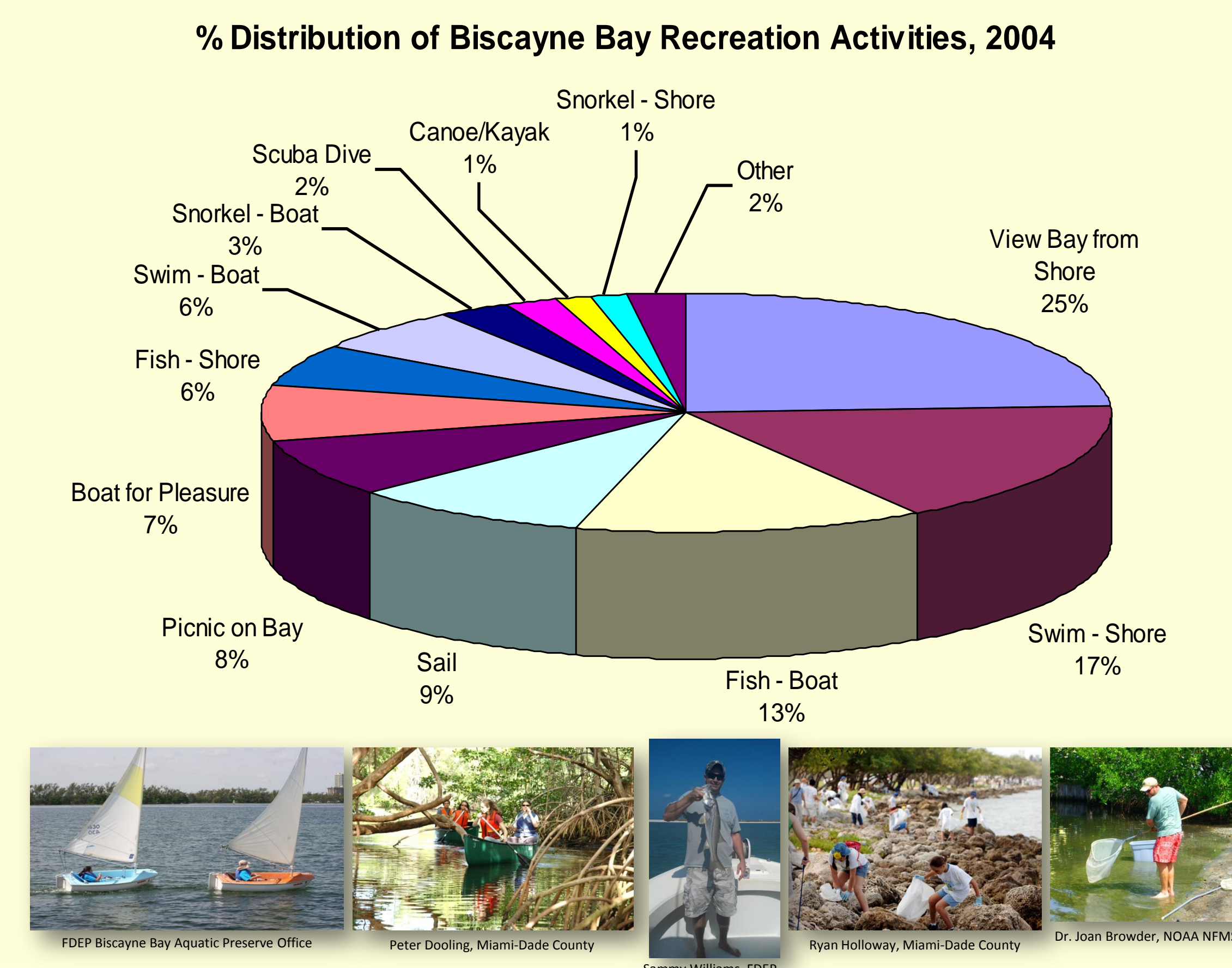
### Restoration, Preservation and Protection of Biscayne Bay

The Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRCT) was formed to develop and implement an Action Plan, the product of a multi-stakeholder initiative to protect and restore Biscayne Bay. The intent of the action plan is to integrate and coordinate restoration, enhancement, preservation projects, plans, and activities to help maintain a functioning Biscayne Bay ecosystem. The team provides science-based advice to the South Florida Restoration Task Force Working Group concerning construction, operation, and monitoring projects of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) that relate to Biscayne Bay's freshwater supply. Maintaining adequate volume and appropriate timing and distribution of freshwater flow to Biscayne Bay is of paramount importance to the BBRRCT with respect to CERP's ongoing redesign of south Florida's water management system.



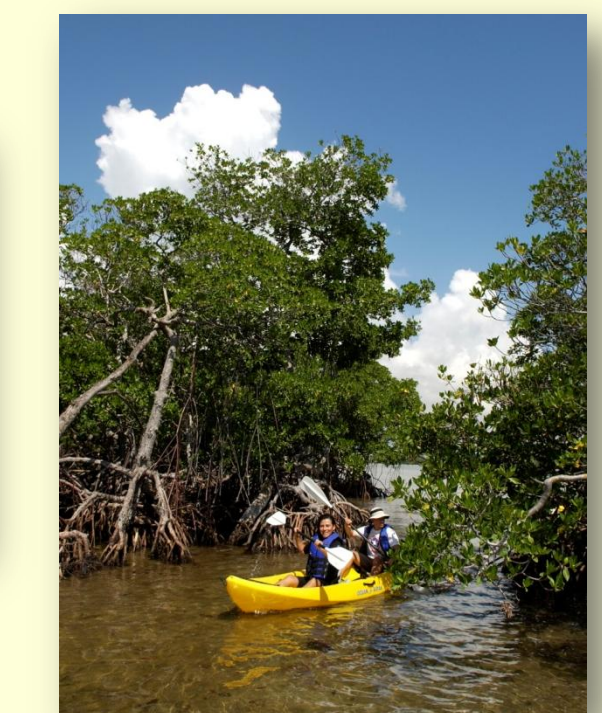
### Biscayne Bay is Rich in Ecosystem Services

Biscayne Bay is an important component of the area's quality of life and economy. It is the largest estuary on southeast Florida's coast, which includes urban Miami and Miami Beach, the southeastern Florida Everglades, the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves, Biscayne National Park, and the northern most complex of islands making up the Florida Keys. The bay supports a wide variety of uses including recreational and commercial fishing, swimming, boating, sailing, kayaking, diving, and snorkeling, as well as shipping and cruise ship operations at the Port of Miami and Miami River. Residents & visitors spent 65.5 million person-days recreating on Biscayne Bay in 2004.



### The Future of the Bay: Our Vision Statement

Biscayne Bay is ecologically restored. It is readily accessible to and appreciated by all members of our diverse community. It supports a variety of uses and economic activities that are environmentally sustainable. Biscayne Bay is managed to promote coordination and to resolve conflicts among competing objectives with sufficient resources to achieve this vision.



## Coordination, Communication and Information Sharing

Federal, State, and Local Government, Stakeholders, Industry and Volunteers Work Together to Help Restore the Bay by coordinating projects and initiatives that improve Water Quantity and Quality to the Bay along with Habitat Restoration Projects



Nearshore estuarine habitats of Biscayne Bay support a recovering population of the American crocodile, a threatened species. This photo was submitted by Miami-Dade County.



Seagrasses in the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves provide food and shelter for many species. Here, a spotted eagle ray swims over seagrasses, perhaps looking for shrimp, urchins, or marine worms to eat. Photo by MIGSHOTS.com.



Mangrove roots provide nursery habitat for a variety of marine organisms. Here, mangrove snapper are seen swimming through red mangrove prop roots in Biscayne National Park. Photo by Jiangang Luo, University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.



Biscayne Bay and its tributaries serve as critical habitat for the endangered Florida Manatee. Photo by DEP Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves.



A roseate spoonbill and great white egret stop to feed in a newly-restored mangrove wetland on Virginia Key, thanks to the efforts of Miami-Dade County. Photo by MIGSHOTS.com.

For more information about the BBRRCT, please visit our website at: <http://www.sfrestore.org/rrct/bbay/index.htm>